THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYER): (a) to (c) Till 31.3.2005, the Ministry was supplementing the efforts of State Governments for creating sports facilities in various places including Universities/Colleges. But with effect from 1.4.2005, the Sports Infrastructure Schemes have been transferred to the State sector. During this period, this Ministry has not sanctioned any project of Uttarakhand State for the construction of an indoor stadium in Ranikhet.

Warning bell on coal shortage

200. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coal Ministry has rung a warning bell after number of coal based power projects face acute shortage of black diamond and sought Power Ministry's help to ensure import of 20 million MT of coal in consultation with Railways, Shipping and Surface Transport and agencies involved;

(b) whether Coal Ministry communicated to the Power Ministry that large number of plants have been facing depletion in their stock at faster pace; and

(c) the steps Government proposes to take to meet the coal shortage and to what extent Government's efforts to obtain the coal in improving the power projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no acute shortage of coal for power utilities in Inida. As against the Annual Action Plan (AAP) target of supply of 249.97 million tonnes of coal to power utilities by Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) during April, 2007 to January, 2008 the actual supply during this period was 255.71 million tonnes (Provisional) showing materialization of about 102%. However, due to lesser materialization as against quarterly planned movement of coal on account of loading/ unloading and movement constraints, short-term production constraints in the linked source etc., there has been depletion of stocks at power plants. In anticipation of this, it was decided by the Government that Ministry of Power would draw up a plan to import 20 million tonnes of coal by power utilities in 2007-08 to improve availability of coal and build up coal stocks at power house end. Moreover, due to various factors like increase in Plant Load Factor (PLF) and increase in specific coal consumption, there has been increase in consumption of coal by power plants. Further, keeping in view the expected power generation target and projected coal production and also with a view to build up coal stocks at the power plants end, Ministry of Power has been advised to retain the current year's target of 20 million tonnes for import during 2008-09 also by power utilities.

Pilling up of coal with CIL

†201. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:
SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge quantity of coal is pilling up with the ancillary units of Coal India Ltd. (CIL) due to less consumption of coal than its extraction;

(b) whether it is a fact that the supply of coal to the National Aluminium Company (NALCO), Orissa from Mahanadi coal area has reduced from 15,000 tonnes per day to 9000 tes;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.